(c) whether the tribal children, who are already poor and malnourished, are deprived of the supplementary food meant for them; and

(d) if so, the proposals to rectify the situation and how Government propose to use the services of MPs and MLAs to improve this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As reported by the State Government, every beneficiary irrespective of the economic status, who comes to the Anganwadi Centre is provided supplementary nutrition as per fixed norms.

(c) Supplementary nutrition is provided to all children including the tribal children coming to the Anganwadi Centre.

(d) The details of involving public representatives in the implementation of the programme are being worked out and will be included in the revamped scheme.

Issue of female foeticide

888. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that female foeticide remains the gravest of all the issues concerning women and education of girl child and it is constantly increasing in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per Registrar General of India Census figures, the child sex ratio (0—6 years) has declined from 945 girls per 1000 males in 1991 to 927 girls per 1000 males in 2001. The State-wise details are available on *'www.censusindia.nef.* Surveys indicate that female foeticide generally takes place due to son preference, high rates of dowry and a patriarchal society.

(c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is in the process of carrying out amendments to the Pre-Conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Technique Act 1994 for stringent implementation of the Act. The States have been provided funds for implementation activities under Reproductive and Child Health Programme-II. It is also proposed to conduct auditing of all ultrasound clincics in the country. The National Support and Monitoring Cell (NSMC) formed for intensifying the implementation of the Act in the country has been strengthened with posting of a Leader in addition to a Social Scientist.